



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Statement on the Return of Opposition Parties to the Montenegro Parliament**

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Paul W. Jones  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
October 28, 2004

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States would like to join our European Union colleagues in expressing our pleasure in hearing of the apparent decision of two parties of the Montenegrin opposition – the Serbian People's Party and the Socialist People's Party - to return to Parliament after an 18-month long parliamentary boycott.

We would like to highlight the role of the OSCE's Mission to Serbia and Montenegro in brokering an end to the boycott, and commend Ambassador Massari and his team for helping to create the necessary conditions to allow the opposition to constructively re-engage. Their energetic efforts on this issue is another example of where the OSCE is making a difference in the field.

Like our EU colleagues, we also hope that the opposition will make their return to parliament permanent. But just as important, we appeal to the opposition to commit to serving all the interests of their constituents. In our view, this means committing to staying in parliament not just to discuss electoral law issues, but also those subjects having to do with the reform of the police, the economy and democratic institutions - the whole range of issues, in other words, associated with good governance.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.